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REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 24 June 1955

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SUBJECT Underground POL Base at Lovech

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFORMA

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. a pipeline was extended beyond the natural barrier, the Osum River, because the pumping station (Point 8, page 6) was served by rail facilities which were not available on the north side of the river. Further, that the storage tanks were located in a suitable position in relation to the favorability of terrain features. Parts and equipment were brought to the north side of the Osum River by truck.

2. this underground POL base was to supply jet fuel to jet aircraft in the Lovech (N 43-08, E 24-43) area, kerosene was being used as a jet fuel.

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3. this POL base had been constructed underground to decrease the chances of its observation from the air. Also, that

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northern Bulgaria had terrain features suitable for such underground installations that were not found in the USSR, Rumania, or Czechoslovakia.

1. Comment: It is believed that the sod field at Lovech Airfield, with a runway of about 4,500 feet, is incapable of supporting jet operations. Further, that only Soviet Air Force pilots would attempt any emergency operations from this field. The nearest jet-based aircraft are at Gabrovnitsa (N 43-32, E 23-15), Graf Ignatievo (N 42-17, E 24-43), and Bezmer (N 42-29, E 26-23) Airfields, all of which are approximately 80 nautical miles distant.

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